

# Jacobs Press Release

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LANSING – Sen. Gilda Z. Jacobs (D-Huntington Woods) has been awarded the “Friend of Diabetes and Kidney Health Care Award” for her legislative contribution to policy issues related to kidney disease and diabetes. The award was presented jointly by the National Kidney Foundation of Michigan, Michigan Diabetes Outreach Network and the American Diabetes Association.

The award recognized Senator Jacobs' legislation that would allow state employees to use up to 30 days of leave time to serve as an organ donor. The bill, SB 376, has bipartisan support and is currently in the Senate Commerce and Labor Committee awaiting consideration.

“This is truly a great honor,” Jacobs said. “These organizations are doing really important work in our state. Diabetes and kidney disease are both increasing at alarming rates. Anything we can do in Lansing to help these groups educate the public about the risks and prevention of diabetes and kidney disease is a worthwhile effort.”

According to Gift of Life, the Michigan Organ and Tissue Donation Program, there are more than 2,300 Michigan residents waiting for transplants.

To learn more about the Michigan Organ and Tissue Donation Program, visit <http://www.giftoflifemichigan.org/>

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*State Senator Gilda Jacobs represents the 14<sup>th</sup> Senate District, which includes Farmington, Farmington Hills, Ferndale, Hazel Park, Huntington Woods, Lathrup Village, Oak Park, Pleasant Ridge, Royal Oak Township, and Southfield. She is the Minority Vice Chair of the Families & Human Services Committee and the Economic Development, Small Business & Regulatory Reform Committee. She also serves on the Government Operations and Health Policy Committees*